

FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Political Activities

1. PURPOSE. To inform commanders and supervisors of the restrictions on the political activity of Soldiers and Army civilian employees.

2. FACTS.

a. With the increased political activity of a general election year, Soldiers and Army civilian employees must be aware of permitted and prohibited political activity.

b. For members of the Armed Forces, AR 600-20 • 1 February 2006, Appendix B and DoDD 1344.10, provide regulatory guidance on political activities. For Army civilian employees, the Joint Ethics Regulation, Chapter 6-201, lists permitted and prohibited political activities.

c. A Soldier on Active Duty or Civilian DoD employee may:

(1) Express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues as a private citizen, but not as an Army representative.

(2) Make monetary contributions to a political party favoring a particular candidate or slate of candidates.

(3) Attend partisan and nonpartisan political meetings (Soldiers can attend meetings only when not in uniform).

d. A Soldier on Active Duty or Civilian DoD employee may not:

(1) Use official authority or influence to solicit votes for a particular candidate or to solicit political contributions.

(2) Display political signs, banners, or posters in government facilities or large political signs or posters on private automobiles (a political sticker on a POV is authorized).

(3) Be a candidate for, hold, or exercise the functions of civil office, generally. (Note: civilians may in some instances hold nonpartisan political office. Potential candidates should consult their ethics advisor.)

ATZK-JAA

SUBJECT: Political Activities Military Justice or, for civilian employees, removal or suspension.

(4) Participate in partisan political management (unless attending as a spectator not in uniform)

(5) Make campaign contributions to another member of the Armed Forces or DoD employee.

e. Other permitted and prohibited political activities are listed in DoDD 1344.10, AR 600-20, and the Joint Ethics Regulation. Violations of these regulatory provisions may provide the basis for disciplinary action.

3. POC is the Administrative Law Division at 4-7414/4668.

Chief, Administrative Law Division